

Treatment Review Panel Meeting

Dr. Simpatico's Office, VSH

September 20, 2007

3:40 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Panel attendees present: Stuart Graves, MD; Lis Mickenberg; Wanda Cosman

Panel attendees absent: Richard Lanza, Psychologist-master

Guests: Tom Simpatico, MD; Terry Rowe; Jessica Oski; Richard Munson

Public attendees present: Ed Paquin

The meeting commenced at 3:40 p.m. The late start was due to the fact that there was not a quorum present until 3:40 p.m.

- 1) Introductions were conducted.
- 2) Establish Chair, sequence of meeting, etc.: It was decided that each panel member would rotate being Chair (Stuart Graves, MD; Richard Lanza; Lis Mickenberg; Wanda Cosman).
- 3) Finalize Agenda: The last draft minutes of September 14, 2006 were discussed but this was never finalized as there was not a quorum present for that meeting.
- 4) Review of Doe v. Miller: This was discussed and there was a question if the panel needs to do restraint and seclusion grievances or if the panel wants to review all grievances at VSH. The hospital already has a process of looking at all grievances. Grievances will be used as potential markers of systemic problems. The particular grievance is not dealt with by the TRP, though people with grievances currently at the hospital may be interviewed by the panel in an effort to gain more insight into potential systemic issues. The panel used to have a voice mail number that people could call in their concerns regarding hospital operation and then the panel would discuss their issues and call them back with a response as appropriate after the panel discussed it. Dr. Graves will check and see if this number still exists. There was discussion that all grievances about abuse or neglect at VSH are brought to the attention of Adult Protective Services.
- 5) Review of the '05 Annual Report; 2/6/07 TPR letter to Commissioner Hartman; 2/20/07 letter from Commissioner Hartman; 9/14/07 Agenda: These were all handed out and reviewed.
- 6) Public Input and VSH Director Input: Jessica Oski talked about a grant from SAMHSA regarding seclusion and restraints. She said this would be of great interest to the panel. There will be a Project Director to be hired around October 1st. Overseer of the grant is William McMain, MD who will be the primary investigator. There will be another person hired to coordinate project and another to coordinate Brattleboro Retreat. When these people are hired the panel would like to invite them to the meeting and also they would like to see the grant. Terry said she would bring a copy of Act 114 Annual report; the SAMHSA grant information; grievance data; and two current grievances to the next meeting.

Ed Paquin discussed seclusion and restraints and how much time it takes VP&A to look at all grievances and how glad he was that this panel was going to do the same. There was discussion about this. It was decided by the panel that looking at every grievance would take longer than they have available as they meet quarterly. The panel decided that VSH has a grievance process so they will not examine every grievance.

It was decided to specifically see two grievances of people currently in the hospital during meetings of the TRP.

Terry will bring a grievance report to the next panel meeting. This report is done every month for the Governing Body.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 15th, 2007 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Goodwin-Abare
Administrative Assistant

9/20/07